



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

120-HOUR REPORT

30 NOVEMBER 2020

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Los Angeles – California Sets Record with Most COVID-19 Hospitalizations Since Pandemic Began

(U) California has more people hospitalized with COVID-19 than at any time since the pandemic began. There were 7,415 COVID-19 patients in California hospitals on Saturday, according to the latest numbers released by the state, surpassing the previous high of 7,170, set in July. The death rate is also rising, in Los Angeles County, an average of 30 people are dying of COVID-19 per day, triple the rate from the period around election day. Statewide, an average of 75 deaths were reported daily over the seven-day period before Thanksgiving, compared with 40 in mid-November.

SOURCE: 29 November 2020, [Los Angeles Times](#)

(U) Sacramento – Prison Inmate Shot and Killed While Allegedly Attacking Another Inmate

(U) An inmate at California State Prison Sacramento was shot and killed by corrections officers when he and three others were allegedly trying to kill another inmate. Three inmates attacked a fourth inmate and when they ignored correctional officers' repeated orders to stop, officers used chemical agents and shot at the inmates, killing one. No corrections staff were hurt, and the shooting remains under investigation.

SOURCE: 26 November 2020, [CBS Local Sacramento](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – Hospitalization Of COVID-19 Patients in United States Reach All Time High

(U) Washington DC – A surge of new travel-related infections could overwhelm hospitals already stretched to capacity. Hospitalizations of COVID-19 patients reached a record high of 93,238 on Sunday, exceeding Saturday's record-breaking 91,635 figure. "There's no way that the hospitals can be fully prepared for what we're currently facing," emergency medicine physician Dr. Megan Ranney said. "This is like a natural disaster occurring in all 50 states at the same time. There are not adequate beds. There are not adequate staff. And because of the lack of national preparation, there are still not adequate supplies."

SOURCE: 29 November 2020, [CNN](#)

(U) Massachusetts – Sovereign Citizen Adherent Arrested for Carrying Loaded Firearm

(U) Boston – A Boston man was arrested and charged with illegally carrying a loaded pistol. The defendant, who allegedly purchased a firearm, body armor, and material that could be used to assemble explosives, adheres to the anti-government/anti-authority sovereign citizen extremist ideology. According to the criminal complaint, the man is suspected of compiling chemicals that can be used to manufacture explosives and had been under law enforcement surveillance.

SOURCE: 27 November 2020, [US DOJ](#)

(U) New Jersey – Former US Service Member Charged with Supporting Syrian Terrorist Organization

(U) Hopatcong – A New Jersey woman who served in the Army has been charged with providing material support to a Syrian terrorist group. Maria Bell, 53, was arrested Wednesday at her home in Hopatcong, federal prosecutors said. Bell is accused of sending money and other information to members of the al-

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Nusra Front and concealing her actions. Bell is accused of communicating directly with and giving money to one member of the terror organization through Western Union in an attempt to hide the source of the money and also "provided him advice on weapons and ammunition," the release states.

SOURCE: 29 November 2020, [FOX News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Afghanistan – Afghan Forces Kill Taliban Planner of Suicide Car Bomb Attack

(U) Ghazni – Afghan forces have killed the Taliban mastermind of a suicide car bomb attack that left at least 30 security personnel dead, officials said Monday. Hamza Waziristani was killed in an air strike overnight in the eastern province of Ghazni where the bomber struck an Afghan military base on Sunday. "The mastermind behind yesterday's terrorist attack on the (Ghazni) base was killed along with seven other terrorists," the defense ministry said in a statement. Ministry spokesman Fawad Aman said that Waziristani was a militant from the extremist group from the Pakistani border region of Waziristan.

SOURCE: 30 November 2020, [Al Arabiya](#)

(U) Honduras – More Than 700 Members of Transnational Organized Crime Groups Arrested

(U) Tegucigalpa – Senior law enforcement officials from the United States, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras announced criminal charges in Central America against more than 700 members of transnational criminal organizations, primarily MS-13 and 18th Street gangs, which resulted from a one-week coordinated law enforcement action under Operation Regional Shield (ORS). Authorities also announced the arrest of 36 individuals in El Salvador and Honduras involved in human smuggling networks that span Central America and the US.

SOURCE: 27 November 2020, [US DOJ](#)

(U) Iran – Top Nuclear Scientist Killed in Assassination

(U) Tehran – Iran's top nuclear scientist was killed Friday in an alleged assassination that the country's foreign minister purportedly linked to Israel. Mohsen Fakhrizadeh, considered one of the masterminds of Iran's controversial nuclear program, died after his car was apparently ambushed in a district east of Tehran.

SOURCE: 28 November 2020, [CNN](#)

(U) Mexico – Warrant Issued for Ex-Security Chief Accused of Aiding Cartel

(U) Mexico City – Mexico has issued an arrest warrant for a former security minister wanted on corruption charges and may request his extradition from the US where he is being held awaiting trial. Ex-Security Minister Genaro Garcia Luna pled not guilty last month to US charges involving a multimillion-dollar bribery scheme allegedly designed to boost the Sinaloa cartel once headed by jailed drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman. The new arrest warrant was issued on Friday and resulted from a charge of illegal enrichment in Mexico, according to an official with the attorney general's office.

SOURCE: 29 November 2020, [The Mercury News](#)

(U) Nigeria – At Least 110 Dead in Suspected Boko Haram Attack

(U) Maiduguri – At least 110 people have been killed in an attack on a village in north-east Nigeria blamed on the Boko Haram jihadist group. The attack took place in the village of Koshobe near the main city of Maiduguri, with assailants targeting farmers on rice fields. The attack took place as voters went to the polls in long-delayed local elections in Borno state. The polls had been repeatedly postponed because of an increase in attacks by Boko Haram and a rival dissident faction, the ISIS affiliated Islamic State in Western Africa Province (ISWAP).

SOURCE: 29 November 2020, [The Guardian](#)

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(U) North Korea – Suspected North Korean Hackers Targeted COVID-19 Vaccine Maker AstraZeneca

(U) Pyongyang – Suspected North Korean hackers have tried to break into the systems of British drug maker AstraZeneca in recent weeks, as the company races to deploy its vaccine for the COVID-19 virus. The hackers posed as recruiters on networking site LinkedIn and WhatsApp to approach AstraZeneca staff with fake job offers, the sources said. They then sent documents purporting to be job descriptions that were laced with malicious code designed to gain access to a victim's computer.

SOURCE: 27 November 2020, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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